

In the Claims:

(As per 37 CFR 1.121 amended claims are provided below in clean form with a marked-up version attached in Appendix B)

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (once amended) A computer-based method of visually delineating a relationship between related graphical objects in a graphical user interface, the method comprising:

associating at least one icon with at least two diverse, but related graphical objects, said icon having a specified color scheme;

when one of said related graphical objects is displayed, displaying said icon within said displayed graphical object; and

wherein said displayed graphical objects are recognizable as related by the persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme in said displayed graphical objects.

2. (once amended) A computer-based method of visually delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 1, wherein said icon is displayed within a visible portion of said displayed graphical object.

Cancel Claim 3.

Cancel Claim 4.

5. (once amended) A computer-based method of visually delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 1, wherein said persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

6. (once amended) A computer-based method of visually delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 1, wherein said related graphical objects comprise any of: graphical windows, toolbars, rulers, wizards, titlebars, tables and icons.

7. (once amended) A computer-based method of delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, said method comprising:

associating at least one icon with a first graphical object, said icon having a specified color scheme;

A³ displaying a second graphical object diverse from, but related to said first graphical object;

displaying said icon within said second object, and

wherein said second object is recognizable as related to said first object by the persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme.

8. (once amended) A computer-based method of delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 7, wherein said first and second objects are located within a graphical user interface.

9. (once amended) A computer-based method of delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 7, wherein the persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme between said first and second objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

A³ 10. (once amended) A computer-based method of delineating a relationship between related graphical objects, as per claim 7, wherein said first and second objects comprise any of: graphical windows, toolbars, rulers, wizards, title bars, tables and icons.

~~Cancel Claim 11.~~

12. (once amended) A computer-based method of graphically illustrating a progressive relationship between a series of related graphical objects comprising:

associating at least one icon with a first graphical object, said icon having a specified color scheme;

displaying said icon with said specified color scheme within said first graphical object;

progressively displaying a series of graphical objects diverse from, but related to said first graphical object, said one or more related graphical objects to reflect an evolution of progression of development of said first graphical object, and

A⁴ wherein said icon with said specified color scheme is displayed within each of said related graphical objects.

13. (once amended) A computer-based method of graphically illustrating a progressive relationship between a series of related graphical objects as per claim 12, wherein the persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme between said related objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

14. (once amended) A computer-based method of graphically illustrating a progressive relationship between a series of related graphical objects as per claim 12, wherein said related graphical objects collectively comprise a user assistance wizard.

15. (once amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means included in said medium:

A⁴ said computer readable program code means embodying a method for:

associating at least one icon with at least two diverse, but, related graphical objects,

wherein said icon has a specified color scheme;

when one of said related graphical objects is displayed, displaying at least one replica of said icon within said displayed graphical object; and

wherein said displayed graphical objects are recognizable as related by the persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme in said displayed graphical objects.

16. (once amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product as per claim 15, wherein said icon is displayed within a visible portion of said displayed graphical object.

~~Cancel Claim 17.~~

18. (once amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product as per claim 15, wherein said persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

19. (once amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means included in said medium:

said computer readable program code means embodying a method for:

associating at least one icon with a first graphical object, said icon having a specified color scheme;

displaying said icon with said specified color scheme within said first graphical object;

progressively displaying a series of graphical objects diverse from, but related to said first graphical object, said one or more related graphical objects to reflect an evolution of progression of development of said first graphical object, and

wherein said icon with said specified color scheme is displayed within each of said related graphical objects.

20. (once amended) A computer program product for use with a graphics display device as per claim 19, wherein said related objects collectively comprise a user assistance wizard.

21. (once amended) A computer-based system with visually related graphical objects comprising:

at least one icon retained in computer storage, said icon having a specified color scheme and associated with a first graphical object;

a display visually instantiating one or more graphical objects diverse from, but related to said first graphical object;

wherein said icon with said specified color scheme is replicated within a visual space of said displayed one or more graphical objects related to said first object, and wherein said one or more displayed objects are visually recognizable as related due to the persistence of said icon with said specified color scheme.

22. (once amended) A computer-based system with visually related graphical objects as per claim 21, wherein the persistence of said icon [and designated colors] with said specified color scheme between said first and related objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Examiner's Office Action Dated 1/16/2002. This amendment should obviate outstanding issues and make the claims allowable. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the remarks that follow.